

NEWTON YOUTH COMMISSION Meeting

April 2, 2008 MINUTES

Location: Newton City Hall Cafeteria

Present:	Joe DeVito (Chair), Marianne Cook, Richard Dyer, Matt Green, Peter Harrington, Officer Jim O'Loughlin, Terance Sack, Sharon O. Stout, Kirsten Tuohy; <u>Students</u> : (none)
Regrets:	Anthony Bibbo, Donna Gordon, Joanne Kazarian, Stephanie Pelkowsky, Stephen Ross, John Stauro, Robert Stauro; <u>Students</u> : Greg Kelley, Kira Mascho, Devin Perry, Katie Sanders, Theresa Stauro
Staff:	Beverly Droz, Director, Human and Volunteer Services
Guests:	Ellen Manning, NCSC Teen Reach Program staff

The meeting was opened at 7:05pm.

Introductions were made and Ellen Manning was again welcomed. She has been attending for the last 2 months since Chris Fortunato left Newton Community Service Center.

A motion to accept the minutes of March 5, 2008 was passed.

Treasurer's report: Bev noted that the custodian's bill from October 2007 finally arrived leaving a balance of \$2,014. We expect the 2 FCD seminars to use about \$1,600 of that. The revolving account still has a balance of \$606.12.

Programs:

FCD:

The annual Freedom from Chemical Dependency forums are scheduled for this Friday, April 4 from 9am to 1pm at Newton South High School, and for May 16 via Jeanne White at NNHS.

Youth Foundation Sub-Committee & Fundraising Committee Reports:

Joe reported that following last month's meeting, they met and Matt agreed to chair the Fundraising Committee to help get it off the ground. It should be students and adults. The fundraising ideas discussed last month need structure. If this fundraising effort could grow it would lend more credibility for the Youth Foundation to grow.

Bev pointed out that the small amount raised by students selling water bottles at some events is very time intensive and that Terry's idea last month of soliciting businesses would be more productive.

Outreach to Teens:

There was discussion of the need to outreach to teens to get them to serve on the Youth Commission. Bev noted that while the ordinance says we can have five student advisory members, we can certainly have more and call the Alternate members. We need ways to outreach that are inclusive of diversity. Bev will email Donna and Kirsten.

New TV taping:

Peter reported that Jenn Adams from New TV is interested in taping any forums. We just have to contact her. It's too late for this Friday but we could plan ahead for the May FCD seminar. Bev said we may have to contact FCD to be sure it is okay with their presenter. She relayed that Bob Staulo had called and would help with this matter.

Annual Youth Leadership Award:

This June will be our 6th annual Youth Leadership Award dinner and meeting. There was discussion of the list of nominations and the Commission agreed upon Deb D'Arcy as this year's recipient. She is a long time child advocate and juvenile probation officer.

The choice of dates selected - based on final exams, graduations, etc. – were (1) June 12, (2) June 10, and (3) June 9. Bev will contact Deb D'Arcy and move things ahead.

Other Business:**SCORE!**

Terry left message for the woman from SCORE! Education Centers in Newton Center and will try again. (See 3/5/08 minutes for details).

Youth Interagency Task Force

Bev reported the Youth Interagency Task Force had its quarterly meeting on March 12 and it was a very productive networking session with about 20 youth service agency providers from the Newton area sharing information about what they are doing and what issues they are facing. The next meeting is June 2 and any Youth Commission member is welcome to attend.

Statewide Youth Commission Collaborative

Bev reported that she attended a quarterly Statewide Youth Commission Collaborative meeting this morning consisting of representatives from various youth commissions or family and human services departments from around the state. Today's meeting was in Stoughton and they presented what they do. Bev explained that it's similar to the sharing our Youth Interagency does, but on a statewide level instead of city level. About 25 people attended from the Cape and North Shore to Worcester and Greenfield. Everyone is facing budget crunches so that is a priority – how to keep providing services when budgets are cut.

Internet Safety:

Marianne reported that Rich Catrambone, counselor at NSHS, is planning to offer a bullying prevention forum for middle schools this spring. She'll keep us posted.

Joe thanked everyone for their work.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 7 at 7:00pm in the City Hall cafeteria.